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ABSTRACT

When Studs Terkel published "Working" in 1974, it quickly found its way into high school and college classrooms across the country. Not surprisingly, in the past 30 years, "Working" has sold over one million copies. This teaching guide for "Working" helps teachers to introduce their students not only to a great text, but to the methods of oral and social history. The guide's lesson plans and exercises are meant to provide a foundation for teachers to customize the study of social history for their students. With classroom-tested teaching units, it encourages students to experiment with different interviewing styles and to explore their own authorial roles as historians and biographers. The guide formulates discussion questions and group activities that look closely at "Working," drawing attention to organizing themes such as the changing role of technology in the workplace and the evolution of job stability over the last 60 years. It features an interview with Studs Terkel on his experience of editing the book and on the use of the teaching guide. A resource section provides students with further information on the standards and methods of oral history and research. (Contains a 69-item bibliography.) (BT)

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